Submission to EIS2 for Application No. SSI-5414 North West Rail Link

ATT: Director, Infrastructure Projects

Name: Ray Sloss 11A Robert Rd Cherrybrook NSW 2126

I strongly object to the:

- o use of Robert Rd as an access route to the station;
- o misinformation in EIS2 and supporting material about road widths and existing traffic loads;
- NWRL transport representative's inability to answer any questions about projected train & station usage numbers during the Community Information session at Cherrybrook Uniting Church;
- o increasing growth of the station footprint and the appearance on the plans of future development sites.

The station has grown from a small stand alone station at Franklin Road to being:

- relocated to Robert Rd to become 'Cherrybrook Station' because of power lines we are lead to believe no-one ever noticed before but miraculously providing increased development opportunity by increasing the footprint;
- renamed Cherrybrook Station and becoming the main construction hub (originally planned for Showground);
- identified as having a large construction zone (EIS1) with a promise that not all the land would be used in the final station and the residue would be used for green space and the community;
- identified as an 'open cut' station to aid ventilation of the line because it's cheaper that way;
- extended to include 7m wide Robert Rd as a feeder route in both directions when it is clearly unsuitable as it is below the Australian standard for a through road, although described in the Technical Papers as 8.5m wide even that is below the 9m width in the standards;
- described as having clear development potential with no land going back to the community and misinformation about access and existing traffic conditions is given in the EIS and Technical Papers (see <u>www.saverobertroad.com</u>).

An alternative scheme avoiding using narrow side streets that simply lead into a series of cul-de-sacs or back to the main roads has been prepared by my wife, Jacqui Goddard, which has clear advantages.



These advantages are:

- Reduced cost of upgrading Robert & Franklin roads to take heavy vehicles.
- Reduced traffic congestion on John Road.
- Allowing easy right turn into the station from Castle Hill Road.
- Potential increase in on-site parking and/ or future uses which reduces impact on neighbourhood streets.
- Increased amenity for Robert Road residents near the station.
- Removal of the need for lights at Glenhope Road which is very close to Robert Rd. Synchronisation of the lights at the Robert Road end and near Franklin Rd allow for traffic to flow from Glenhope Road without the worry of crashes.
- Closing Robert Road complys with the Austroad classification as a cul-de-sac.

Owners who have had property compulsorily purchased (and the neighbourhood) have now become aware that the market value + 10% paid to property owners is considerably less than the worth of the properties now that development potential has been identified. This will be referred to ICAC and the media. It is reminiscent of the recent Obeid revelations but in fact it is worse because it is ripping off small home owners.

Each stage of the project has been designed to placate the community with a drip feed of information with the ultimate aim of making money for private developers under the guise of 'community good' and 'solving Sydney's transport'. The station and transport is not the end game here. Development is, at the expense of the community.

The Robert Road Action Group has had to commission an independent traffic study and has done a lot of research which has revealed that the EIS and supporting documents contain a lot of errors and cannot be relied upon. They have not checked facts for the decisions at other stations but it can be assumed that a lot of the information upon which decisions are being based is flawed.

Unfortunately when this is all finished it will still not have solved the West's transport problems and is still taking north-west commuters to the North Shore. If this construction and the final scheme causes inconvenience over a long period and reduces property values compensation will be sought.

We do not want high-rise development and want the 'station in the bush' proposal resurrected and will be fighting for that.

Yours faithfully Raymond Austin Sloss